



# Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

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Ken Cornell, *Chair*  
Anna Prizzia, *Vice Chair*  
Mary Alford  
Charles S. Chestnut, IV  
Marihelen Wheeler

**Administration**  
Michele L. Lieberman  
*County Manager*

February 25, 2026

NACA Awards Committee  
The National Association of  
County Administrators  
777 N. Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Nomination of Michele Lieberman for the David J. Krings County Administrator of the Year Award

Dear Members of the NACA Board and Awards Committee:

It is with great pride and the highest level of admiration that I nominate Michele Lieberman, Alachua County Manager, for the prestigious David J. Krings County Administrator of the Year Award. Having had the privilege of observing her leadership firsthand, I can say without reservation that Michele embodies every quality this award was created to honor. She is, quite simply, an extraordinary public servant.

Michele's career in public service spans decades, a testament to her lifelong commitment to her community. She began her service at the county as County Attorney, where she earned a reputation for her keen intellect, sound judgment, and unwavering ethical standards. Her seamless transition from County Attorney to County Manager was a natural progression that reflected the confidence her elected officials placed in her. This career arc is rare and remarkable, demonstrating not only her legal acumen but also her capacity for executive leadership and strategic vision.

In 2024, Michele was recognized as the recipient of the FIERCE Award of Greater Gainesville, a distinction that speaks to the profound influence she has had on her community and the region at large. The FIERCE Award celebrates individuals who lead with courage, purpose, and impact, and Michele has demonstrated all of these qualities consistently throughout her career. This recognition is but one of many reflections of the respect and admiration she commands among peers, elected officials, and community members alike.

Those who work alongside Michele consistently describe her as one of the most caring and empathetic leaders they have ever encountered. She takes the time to know her staff as individuals, advocates fiercely on their behalf, and creates an environment where people feel valued and heard.

Beyond her administrative accomplishments, Michele is respected as a mentor and advocate. She invests in the professional development of those around her, champions her staff at every level, and cultivates a workplace where individuals feel empowered to grow. I believe her leadership is rooted in the belief that strong organizations are built on strong people, and she works every day to make that a reality.

Michele has given decades of her professional life to public service, and the residents, employees, and elected officials of Alachua County are immeasurably better for it. I urge the Awards Committee to give her nomination the full and favorable consideration it deserves. She is, in every sense of the word, deserving of this honor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Cornell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Cornell, Chair  
Alachua County Commission